

Sandwich Newcomers & Neighbors

MAY 2020

Co-Presidents' Message:

First and foremost, we hope that all of you are well and looking forward to better weather as we continue to live under the cloud of Covid-19.

Second, we are happy to report that the SNN Nominating Committee has met via Microsoft Team (thank you, Ed Collupy!) and that the full Board has been contacted via email with the Committee's recommendations for the soon-to-be vacant positions on the Board. The recommendations were as follows:

President: Jean Dorcus

Since Jean currently serves on the Board (Special Events: 2019-2021), Rosi Holcombe and I have volunteered to serve in that position for one year until Jean's term would have ended.

Vice-President: Lee Burns

Wine Socials: Candice Murphy

Newsletter: Ed Collupy

Publicity: Lesley Zicko



"There are good ships,
and there are wood
ships,
The ships that sail the
sea.
But the best ships, are
friendships,
And may they always
be."

The Board has unanimously and wholeheartedly approved the recommendations of the Nominating Committee. Normally, the approval of the entire SNN membership would be sought at the Annual Meeting and Picnic, which is presently set for Saturday, June 20th at the Holly Ridge Golf Club. However, this year may be

different for obvious reasons. Stay tuned for more information about plans for the Picnic and the membership vote in the June 2020 Newsletter.

Finally, we want to express our sincere appreciation to all our 2018-2020 Board members, especially Anne Sayer and Prentice Adler, who will not be rejoining the Board this year.

As many of you know, Anne has been a valued member of the SNN Board since 2011. Since then, she has served in many positions, including President (2014-2016). Anne's generosity in sharing valuable insights gained during her years on the Board have been an invaluable resource for us as "newcomer" co-Presidents these past two years.

As for Prentice, his technical expertise and incredible patience in bringing this monthly Newsletter to you could not have been more appreciated by all of us.

Thank you Anne and Prentice!!!

This month, back by popular demand, Prentice Adler, gives a MEMORY piece, with a Coda from Mike

STAY WELL

Kit Sullivan

THE VERY FAR UPSIDE OF SOCIAL DISTANCING



FROM WADE AND ANNE SAYER

Thanks again, again

how many friends have stopped at the gate to wish us well

to drop off a kind note, homemade soup, a dinner for two

so many quiet kindnesses

a book liked and shared, a bouquet of flowers

groceries at our door to save us from the virus

dear friends who passed on pieces of their thoughts and moments together

laughter, drinks, games

all remembered so well



Wade and Anne

SPECIAL (MOSTLY NON)EVENTS FOR MAY

MAY 16, SATURDAY at 7:00 p.m.: Virtual Wine Social



Last month's VWS went very well. Let's try to have technology bring us together again to connect and raise a glass of cheer – we're going to try a virtual wine social from our PC's or mobile devices thanks to our host Ed Collupy. Watch for an email from Ed for this event that we will hold on Saturday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m.

The email will be to join a Microsoft Teams meeting. You can 'accept' the invite and/or save the email for the event day/time. At the meet up day/time if you are using a Windows device just click on the 'Join Microsoft Teams Meeting' link in the invite to join in on the conversation and fun.

If you will be joining from an Apple device (for example, iPhone, iPad) you will need to download the Microsoft Teams app ahead of the meeting time from the App Store. Once it's downloaded, it will allow you to join the meeting – when prompted just log in as a guest.



Be sure to allow your microphone and camera to be used so we can hear and see one another.

There will also be a phone # if you only want to join by voice. That may have been the one hiccup last month. We'll work to fix it.

It will only be our second attempt at this so give it a try with patience and we'll see how this works out to share some time with one another.

FROM CANDICE MURPHY FOR THE SNN WALKING GROUP

Hello Sandwich Newcomers!

I was looking forward to warmer weather to start up the Walking Group after our winter hiatus. Unfortunately, Mother Nature is not cooperating right now with the weather and with the appearance of Covid-19. I hope most of you can get outside for some fresh air and exercise. If you do, I have a nice hike to suggest:

According to their website, the Maple Swamp Conservation Area Landmarks Loop is a 5.9 mile lightly trafficked loop trail located near East Sandwich, Massachusetts that offers the chance to see wildlife and is rated as moderate. The trail is primarily used for hiking and walking and is accessible year-round. Dogs are also able to use this trail.



Maple Swamp Conservation Area - Parking is on the Service Road just past Sandwich Hollows golf course (between QMH and Chase Road exits). Stay right at the first fork in the trail. Then another right to Sam Nye Mountain. It's an uphill climb but you will be rewarded with nice views of Cape Cod Bay when you reach the top. Also, take some time to look for mayflowers (Massachusetts' state flower)...they are tiny white or pink star shaped flowers and we saw plenty of them the other day. The trail continues after you reach Sam Nye Mountain if you want more distance. Don't forget to bring water and a mask.

Enjoy and stay safe!!
Candice Murphy



Sorry, but NO other club special activities are scheduled now. No need to explain why. We've all been plodding through this together (but six feet apart).

However, we can all keep in touch as we have been, through virtual meetings, calling a friend for a walk, sharing on-line games, recipes and books. Below is a list of things that may have kept us busy, but we're looking for the humorous or unusual activities that you're willing to share. Email them to me (jeandorcus2@gmail.com) and we'll share next month. Photos would be great as well. Thank you in advance.

Cleaning out: closets, cabinets, basements, attics, that infamous kitchen catch-all drawer

Games of all kinds – old favorites and maybe some new suggestions for Game Nights

Books and Puzzles: **The Book Club selection for May The Guest Book by Sarah Blake will be discussed via Zoom on Tuesday, June 9.**

Painting, drawing, sketching, sculpting ,Gardening

Sewing, quilting, knitting, crocheting

Binging TV and discovering twenty new channels

Creativity in the kitchen – experimenting with new maybe not-so-good recipes for food and drink

Room makeovers: Painting, redecorating, wallpapering

Driving on and off Cape exploring towns and taking the side roads you always wanted to see

I know this could go on and on, but send me your adventures and photos. Love to hear from you!

JEAN: HAPPY MAY!



SAVE THE THOUGHT

KAYAKING

This activity may be one bit of recreation where getting exercise outside and maintaining social distancing are assured. And if everyone brings a little "nip" bottle of Lysol that pesky virus won't have a chance of getting any new victims. There may still be the threat of the menacing Creek Sharks and Pond Piranha we've coped with in the past.

I hope to start our season in mid-May and I would like to cull the mailing list of those who have sold their kayaks, entered a nursing facility or for any other reason don't think they will be joining our expeditions this season. If YOUR kayaking days are in the rear view mirror, please let me know. On the other hand I have asked Mike S to put a note in the newsletter appealing to recent additions to the club to try out kayaking with us. This might also provide opportunities for kayak swaps between those who need them and those who are done.



I know it is tough to consider the prospect of paddling to a sandy beach for a picnic on a sunny day, when what we are experiencing is the second edition of March (also known as April away from the North Atlantic) and much of May can have the same problem. Anyway, please let me know if you are still interested in the Kayak Caucus of the Sandwich Newcomers Navy.

Admiral Houlihan

New date August 22, Saturday: The CC Symphony is presenting “Sinatra!”, a show for those who enjoy the music of Old Blue Eyes, on Saturday, August 22, at 3:00, at the Barnstable Performing Arts Center in Barnstable High School.

All will enjoy hearing well known vocalist Brian Duprey who looks and sounds like Frank! Beth Houlihan has reserved 24 seats for SNN in the orchestra left section. The cost is \$46.80. Email Beth (ebhouli@gmail) if you would like to go. Final confirmation and payment will be announced in June news letter.



If you have no idea of Brian’s TERRIFIC work, try:

https://www.google.com/search?source=hp&ei=FJ2pXsa5JpGzggfEr4ewBw&q=brian+duprey+sinatra&oq=brian+duprey&gs_lcp=CgZwc3ktYWIQARgEMgIIADICCAAyAggAMgIIADICCAAyAggAMgYIABAWEB4yBggAEBYQHjIGCAAQFhAeMgYIABAWEB46BQgAEIMBOgQIABAKUN8gWNZDYI1iaABwAHgAgAGnBYgBswySAQgxMC4yLjUtMZgBAKABAaoBB2d3cy13aXqwAQA&sclient=psy-ab

THE SNN EVENTS OF APRIL

THE VIRTUAL WINE SOCIAL



THE ALMOST SEND-OFF OF MARGARET AND VIC MANKIEWICZ

A caravan of ten cars decorated in signs and balloons surprised Margaret and Vic Mankiewicz on Saturday, April 25 to wish them a Happy 50th anniversary and bid them a fond farewell from the Club. They are moving to Athens, GA, but will be staying in Dennis through June. Depending on the regulations, we may get to see them again before they leave.



NOTES

The flyer below invites you to join the Sandwich Croquet Club. A handful of SNN members already belong. If interested, please use the information on the flyer to be put on a contact list, as dates may need to change.



SANDWICH CROQUET CLUB
SANDWICH HOLLOWES GOLF CLUB



LESSONS:
Golf Croquet, Six and Nine Wicker Croquet
5 Wednesdays, May 13-June 10, 2020
10:00-11:30 am
\$25 fee – pay at first lesson
Equipment provided

FOR RESERVATIONS OR QUESTIONS:
508-362-8471 or sandwichcroquet@gmail.com
1 Round Hill Rd, Sandwich, MA
(on Service Rd between exit 3 & 4)

UPDATE: If interested, please use the information on the flyer to be put on a contact list. You will be notified of the new class dates as soon as they become available.



MORE NOTES

A NOTE FROM THE MEN OF POKER

On sabbatical for the moment, but the SNN Men's Poker Group is still seeking new players

Games are evenings on Tuesdays, 7 pm to 11 pm

\$.25 - \$.50 bet limit, 3 raises per card

Texas Hold'em; Five Card and Seven Card Stud; high only or high low split, Omaha high - Low Split

No wild cards...

Friendly, Fun Game... members rotate hosting at homes

Contact: Henry Jablecki at 508 833-1077; or Jim Doherty at gumperjg1@comcast.net

Read to Me Redux

From Leslie Zicko: If you love reading and are looking for an opportunity to make a difference in a young child's life, please consider becoming a Read To Me volunteer. You will be able to share the joys of reading with Head Start preschoolers, many of whom are rarely read to on a one-on-one basis, if at all. From 2015 until 2018, SNN was involved with "Read to Me" in Bourne. The children and teachers always looked forward to having us come and read. Unfortunately, that program closed.



Stu Parsons, from the Sandwich Public Library, and Amanda Coleman, from Head Start, have asked SNN if we would like to be involved in a Read to Me program at the Sandwich Head Start Preschool. This new program, operating out of YMCA's Camp Lyndon, has one classroom this year and hopes to have another in September. As readers, we would go into each classroom and read to one or two children for a half an hour on a bi-weekly basis. Having participated in the program for three years, I can assure you, it is an hour well spent! The children love the one-on-one attention. If you think you would like to become a reader, please let Lesley Zicko know at lazicko@comcast.net. Hopefully, with enough interest and some luck, we will begin Read to Me in the fall.

MEMORIES

The end of October is a good time to head South for many people. I was 23 years old that fall of 1973 on my way to Port au Prince, Haiti. I had plans to see a friend in Petionville, and stay at the Castle Haiti near downtown Porto au Prince. I met up with my friend that late afternoon. Tony Roy (pronounced wa) was my age. He lived in the states but spent a lot of time at his mother's house in Haiti visiting her and his 16 year old sister.

Tony's father wasn't living there at the time because he was avoiding arrest by staying at a foreign embassy. Jean-Claude Duvalier (Baby Doc) had labeled Tony's father, a Secretary to Duvalier, a communist because the common people admired him. Baby Doc was 22 years old at the time and ruled with an iron fist. He felt threatened by popular figures, and dealt with the competition by arrest, torture, and murder.

I didn't know at the time that my friend's mother was in good graces with the regime and I still don't know, how to this day, that it was possible since her husband was a *persona non grata*. I was going to learn over the next few days how powerful she was in this microscopic part of the world.

After I got my room and secured my bags at the hotel, I grabbed a cab to see Tony. My French was close to non-existent at the time, so I gave the driver the address written down on a piece of paper. The gate to my friend's house was locked, so a maid came down to open it and let me in and locked it right after. Before the night was over I was going to get a few lessons about the third world.

In the '70s, Petionville was considered an upscale superb of Port au Prince. By looks, it was equivalent to a small French town with masonry built homes and fenced/gated yards. Tony, his sister, and I walked a short distance from his house and jumped on a Tap Tap (a small pickup truck with seats, sides, and a roof over the back end. I can't remember the price, but it was either 10 or 20 cents. We rode down the road until we got into downtown Port au Prince. The traffic and driving techniques I witnessed aren't duplicated in any other countries I've been to since. For the whole city, I remember only one traffic light.

There were three types of venues of entertainment that resembled a business establishment: casino, nightclub, or bar/brothel. Tony's sister suggested the bar. All bars I went to in the country had a brothel attached. That's where the crowds were. The one and only casino was empty. Welcome to Haiti!



The next day was major event in the country, Halloween. This was my first introduction to Western Voodoo. It's a combination of old African voodoo tied with the Christian religion. It's practiced in New Orleans, Montreal, NYC, and of course, Haiti. All of the days close to All Saints Day are a big deal in these communities. I wound up going to many in the city and suburbs.

Tony's mother and I went to one day in the suburbs. I can't remember why he didn't go, but it proved to be interesting because without him, I didn't have an interpreter. My French at the time was minuscule and I only recognized a little Creole by the time we went. The meeting/ceremony was the usual: bottles of alcohol & peppers passed around, people dancing around in a haze, drums beating. These things could last for days. We were only going to be there for a few hours.

Everything seemed "normal" for what I'd seen at the other events until a man came up to me and started yelling at me. He only got a few sentences out of his mouth when Tony's mother got up and started yelling at him. The man's face turned scared, and a secret policeman (formally the Tonton Macoute) backed up, and then after a pregnant pause, everything went back to normal. Me, not understanding Creole, and Tony's mother not speaking English, left some unanswered question as to what just happened.

An hour later I drove us back to the house, the maid let us in and served refreshments and soon Tony got back. There was a short conversation right afterwards and Tony looked at me and said, "I heard what happened today" . "Yeh, Tony, what happened?" I said.

The story that came out was that the guy yelling at me was threatening to kill me because I was white. Tony's mother countered him saying that if anybody does any killing, she was going to kill him. In Haiti, this was no joke. The reason the secret policeman backed up is that she had a reputation for doing just that. If she didn't like you, your house was going to be burned down. This was the real world in the 1970's in Haiti.

PRENTICE ADLER

CODA: I was there too, working, in 1985 (when Haiti was thought to be the AIDs originator). Hotels were mostly empty. If you've ever read "The Comedians" by Graham Greene or seen the Burton/Taylor movie of the same name (both really good, in my opinion), that was what it was like when I was there.

I was representing a Haitian-American under indictment in the U.S., avoiding extradition back to the U.S by having himself "jailed" in Haiti. The jail wasn't bad. As I recall, he had to stop by the prison every Thursday afternoon for a quick visit with the Warden to keep his status intact. The arrangement was facilitated by Michelle Bennett, the wife of Baby Doc. She was an old friend of my client from her days in NYC.

My client operated the largest importer of meat into Haiti. Wanted in the U.S., a fugitive from justice, he was quite proud of the fact that his company was the prime supplier of meat for the U.S. Embassy in Haiti.

I was not able to arrange a surrender to the federal authorities in NYC on terms agreeable to my client. He envisioned something like his arrangement in Haiti. Not sure what happened to him after 1985. Baby Doc got thrown out of Haiti in 1986 or so, and M. Bennett divorced Baby Doc around 1990.

Mike Sullivan

Activities

ACTIVITIES ARE GENERALLY SUSPENDED FOR THE DURATION

The Women's Daytime Book Club meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1:00PM. New members are welcome. Coordinator is Patty Williams, (mpatty3@comcast.net)

Men's Poker Group meets first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 PM . Coordinators are Paul Pronovost (paulernest@comcast.net) and Henry Jablecki (hjablecki@comcast.net)

Girl's Night Out: Ladies go to early movie, and then supper at local restaurant. Contact Anne Sayer, (asayer3@gmail.com)

Special Events (maybe with lunch or dinner): Contact Jean Dorcus with any of your ideas.(jeandorcus2@gmail.com)

Kayak Caucus: Sliding Quietly through the Cape's bays, ponds, marshes and rivers. All levels of Kayaking welcome. Please email Coordinator Ed Houlihan at (ebhouli@gmail.com) to confirm you want to be included on the Kayak Caucus list. Please include your email address and the phone number where you can be reached on the day of the scheduled kayak trips.

Walking/Hiking Group: Discover new walking trails in the streets and backroads of Sandwich. All levels of walkers welcome! So far, we have explored Shawme Pond, Boyden Farm Conservation, the Game Farm, Green Briar Nature Center, and downtown Sandwich. Members who show up are encouraged to plan the next excursion. We GENERALLY have been walking at 9:30 am on Fridays, weather permitting. Emails to all members with planned routes are sent out weekly. Step away from that boring treadmill and enjoy the fun of socializing while exercising! Coordinator Candice Murphy, contact Candice at murphyrc6@comcast.net

Fishing: Surf casting for blues and stripers in the bay or the canal. Welcome to beginners or experienced anglers. Seeking a new Coordinator.

Biking: Riding the pathways and the rail trails of the Cape, lunch at a local favorite. Patty Williams, Coordinator, (mparty3@comcast.net)

Guy's Get Together: Guys meet for coffee-breakfast and discussion of issues, large and small. 2nd and 4th Wednesday every month at the Marshland Too . Wade Sayer Coordinator (wsayer@aol.com)



Board of Directors

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